

REMARKS

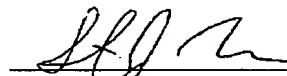
The present patent application has been reviewed in light of the office action, dated March 22, 2005, in which claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Assignee regards as the invention. Claims 1-17 have been cancelled, and claims 18-27 have been added in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Assignee regards as the invention. Also, it is noted that the Assignee's failure to comment directly upon any of the positions asserted by the Examiner in the office action does not indicate agreement or acquiescence with those asserted positions. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully asserted that all of the claims pending in the present patent application are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, he or she is invited to contact the undersigned at (503) 640-6475. Reconsideration of the present patent application and early allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested. Please charge any underpayments or credit any overpayments to deposit account no. 50-3130.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 8/17/2005



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 at 571-273-8300 on:

August 17, 2005

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Jessica A. Harvey

Name of Person Transmitting Correspondence



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